



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

SAVANNAH RIVER OPERATIONS OFFICE

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Road Construction Contract Awarded to Local Company for Improved Access to SRS

Aiken, SC (July 16) -- Savannah River Nuclear Solutions officials recently awarded a contract worth nearly \$300,000 to a local road construction company to improve traffic flow through the two primary security check points, know as barricades, leading into the 310-square-mile nuclear reservation.

Grade South, Inc. began construction this week to create an additional lane leading up to and through the New Ellenton Barricade located on SC Route 19, Whiskey Road, in Aiken County. In addition, Grade South will restripe all of the lanes preceding the barricade. Combined with the new asphalt lane, the restriping will provide employees with four lanes of access to SRS through this security barricade. This upgrade is important in that Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, LLC, (SRNS) the operating contractor for SRS, is in the process of hiring over 2,000 new employees to accelerate site cleanup activities under the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act.

"Flow through our entry control points was, at times, already congested," said Ron Bartholomew, Director, Office of Safety, Security and Emergency Services, Department of Energy (DOE) Savannah River Operations Office. "We want to make access to our site convenient for our employees. However, more importantly, we want to ensure this can be accomplished safely, eliminating potential traffic hazards."

Lanes leading up to the Jackson Barricade on Highway 125 will also be restriped by Grade South to reduce traffic congestion in the right lane. Additional improvements to increase traffic flow are being evaluated.

Additional information on the Savannah River Site, can be found at <http://www.srs.gov>. For more information about the SRS Recovery Act Project, please visit www.srs.gov/recovery. Follow SRS on twitter also: www.twitter.com/SRSNews

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